Jim Nedtwig & Beth Henning 443 Tonawanda Drive Des Moines, Iowa 50312 (515)277-2427

5241 '01 MAR 16 P3:44

Docket No. OON-1396 & Docket No. OOD-1598 FDA Commissioner, Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

3/13/01

## Dear Public Servant:

Your proposed new rules for genetically engineered foods are unacceptable. We, the people, need genetically engineered foods rules that:

- 1) Require mandatory pre-market safety testing
- 2) Require mandatory pre-market environmental testing
- 3) Require mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods

FDA is supposed to protect the people, not the corporations!

Most unacceptable of all are your "Guidance for Industry: Voluntary Labeling Indicating Whether Foods Have or Have Not Been Developed Using Bioengineering" rules. The guidance document severely limits the language producers may use to market their GMO free products. We need more information on food labels, not less!

If GMO growers, producers, processors, and marketers want to try to sell GMO foods to people that don't want them, that should be <u>their</u> handling and documentation problem, <u>not</u> the problem of non-GMO growers, producers, processors, and marketers,

The burden of proof for 1) food safety, 2) environmental safety, 3) labeling claims, and 4) verification systems for chain of custody documentation, should lie with GMO food producers and growers, NOT with producers and growers of non-GMO foods. Put GMO foods on a separate handling and documentation track, not non-GMO foods!

We demand food labeling rules that require disclosure of any GMO food ingredients, with GMO producers bearing the burden of proof. In addition, non-GM0 food producers must be allowed to use marketing language such as "GMO Free".

Sincerely,

Jim Nedtwig

Beth Henning

d James Nedtwig Drive a 50312





Mai ggi

Docket No. 00N-1396 & Docket No. 00D-1598 FDA Commissioner, Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

rossythmo: